COMMANDERS DIGEST

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RECEIVED DOCUMENTS SECTION

LBJ Says Ending Poverty Is Vital U.S. Objective

"The bravery of young American patriots on the battlefield, the steadfast determination of our people at home, will in time bring an end to this trial of aggression," President Johnson told the 48th annual American Legion convention in Washington.

But the President also pointed out the United States faces a series of explosive crises in which military involvement is urgently at issue, unless worldwide poverty is eased.

He also reminded his audience that an armistice can end fighting without ending the war. "Only when we root out the very causes of war—the poverty of man's body, the privation of his spirit, the imprisonment of his liberties—will there be a final surrender of violence itself.

"That is our aim in Asia as it has been our aim twice this century in Europe."

High Stakes in Vietnam

The President stressed that much is at stake in Vietnam.

"Make no mistake about the character of this war," he said. "Our adversaries have done us at least one great service. They have described this war for what it is in unmistakable terms. It is meant to be the opening salvo in a series of bombardments—or as they are called in Peking, 'Wars of Liberation.'

"And if it succeeds in Vietnam, then, as Marshal Lin Piao says, 'The people in other parts of the world will see that what the Vietnamese people can do, they can do, too.'"

President Johnson said U.S. fighting men in Vietnam are, "The best trained, the best equipped, the best-supported army that America has ever put on any field of battle.

"Their morale is as high as their firepower is great. They have encountered an enemy whose tactics are unlike those a modern American army has ever faced before. And they are beating him in engagement after engagement day after day."

He added, "If our might is needed to help them defend themselves from aggression supported from without, it will be there. And it will remain there, and persevere, so long as it is required—and not a day longer."

COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF ABOARD—President Lyndon B. Johnson talks with Capt. Eugene Hemley, USN, Commanding Officer of the command cruiser of the Atlantic Fleet, U.S.S. Northampton. The President made an overnight cruise on the Northampton to Campobello Island, where he met with Canadian Prime Minister Lester B. Pearson.

Sec Def Cites Heightened Preparedness of U.S. Forces

The United States is better prepared today to fulfill its worldwide commitments than at any time in recent years, Secretary of Defense Robert S. McNamara said following a recent cabinet meeting with President Johnson.

Noting the deployment of U.S. forces from December 1964 to June 30 of this year, Secretary McNamara said, "Not only has the active force increased by more than enough to supply Southeast Asia, but the readiness of the reserve and Guard forces has increased very substantially."

He explained that for the same period, overall strength of the military establishment increased from approximately 2,660,000 to 3,100,000.

He noted that the U.S. had about 50,000 men in Southeast Asia in 1964, compared to about 350,000 in June of this year.

"Yet that increased deployment abroad 10,000 miles from here did not affect our other foreign deployment," the secretary said, "which remained approximately constant during that portion of the period—rising slightly during it— nor did it affect the strategic reserve in this country, which actually rose."

Washington Memos

ARMED FORCES STRENGTH totalled 3,136,259 as of July 31, a gain of 42,201 during July, according to a preliminary DOD report. Army increased by some 28,000 men with the Marine Corps expanding by about 6,300 men. Air Force gained about 4,800 during July and Navy approximately 2,900. Total service strengths reported were: 1,227,990 for Army; 747,927 for Navy; 268,170 for Marine Corps; 892,172 for Air Force.

TOW, ARMY'S HEAVY anti-tank guided missile, arrived for engineering service testing by Army Missile Test and Evaluation at White Sands Missile Range. Weapon's name, TOW, stands for Tube launched, Optically tracked, Wire guided missile.

U.S. RESPONDED QUICKLY to earthquake disaster in eastern Turkey by dispatching 36-bed Air Force hospital manned by doctors and medics Aug. 20. Quakes, which hit one day earlier, killed or injured thousands, levelled entire villages, shifted mountains to block roads and streams, and providing relief became an international task.

POLAR SEA STUDY in the Barents and Greenland Seas is currently underway by Naval Oceanographic Office. Aim is to measure temperature and sound velocity structure of these far northern waters with an eye to predicting ice thickness and ice breakup time for 1967 operating season.

WEST POINT TOUR will be conducted over nation-wide TV by General of the Army and former President Dwight D. Eisenhower. The General will reminisce about his days at the U.S. Military Academy in an hour long color special called "Young Mr. Eisenhower" Sept. 13 at 10 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time.

AIR FORCE GENERAL COUNSEL Stephen N. Shulman will be nominated by President Johnson to become chairman of Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, White House Press Secretary William D. Moyers has announced. He succeeds Franklin D. Roosevelt Jr., who resigned last May. 33-year-old Shulman served from 1962 to 1965 as Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Civilian Personnel, Industrial Relations and Civil Rights.

NEW DOD GENERAL COUNSEL to be nominated by President Johnson is Paul C. Warnke, 46, who was selected to fill post vacant since July 1964, White House also announced. Warnke is partner in Washington law firm of Covington and Burling.

SPANISH AIR FORCE chief, Lt. Gen. Luis Navarro Garnica, is visiting U.S. on 10-day tour of Air Force and industrial installations. Gen. and Mrs. Navarro who are visiting the country as guests of Air Force Chief of Staff, Gen. John P. McConnell, return to Spain in mid-September.

KEY MATERIEL, SYSTEMS, and logistics officers from Tactical Air Command headquarters, Langley AFB, Va., will participate in worldwide materiel conference at the Air Force Academy Oct. 12-14. Maj. Gen. Robert L. Delashaw, deputy chief of staff for materiel, will head TAC delegation.

OPERATION DEEP FREEZE, Navy's support program for U.S. Antarctic research, involves five year-round stations and two summer installations over an area as vast as U.S. and western Europe combined. U.S. population during height of south polar summer season swells to 1,000 from 200 who sit out dark and cold winter.

AUXILIARY GASOLINE TANKER Kishwaukee recommissioned Sept. 1 at Portland, Ore. Navy said, after commissioning and fitting out, Kishwaukee will join U.S. Pacific Fleet Service Force to provide petroleum replenishment to advanced or overseas bases or to ships. Vessel can also carry light freight and is capable of fueling ships at sea.

CHINOOK HELICOPTER MODIFICATIONS planned by Army Materiel Command at St. Louis, Mo., are aimed at doubling payload of CH-47's presently in Army system. Phase one changes in interim CH-47B model for June 1967 include development of new rotor blades and forward pylon redesign. Changes for configuration II CH-47C model involve more powerful Lycoming engine and gross aircraft weight reduction to 44,000 pounds.

U.S. NAVAL MOBILE Construction Battalion Forty, homeported at Construction Battalion Center, Davisville, R.I., has completed its move to South Vietnam. It is fourth Atlantic Fleet Seabee Battalion to be airlifted directly to Southeast Asia. MCB-40 is to construct military base facilities and other defense installations in Chu Lai area.

CLEAR AIR TURBULENCE or "CAT" detection might be accomplished better by ground-based radar and forward-scattering techniques than to employ an airborne system. While findings are still incomplete, joint Air Force and NASA "CAT" experiments involving correlating radar echoes with atmospheric conditions are "one of the most important conclusions of this study," an Air Force scientific paper has pointed out.

FIRST PHILIPPINE CIVIC Action Group (PHILCAG) soldiers were airlifted to Republic of Vietnam by a U.S. Air Force C-130 Hercules assigned to 463rd Troop Carrier Wing. PHILCAG volunteers were authorized for Vietnam service by Congress of Philippines. First group of 62 was advance unit of a projected 2,000 man force.

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DOD Policy on Assistance To Next of Kin Detailed

Department of Defense policy requires that immediate, sympathetic and personal notification be made to the next of kin of U.S. personnel who are missing or captured in Vietnam. Policy further requires immediate and continuing assistance to the next of kin through personal services of a Casualty Assistance or Survivor Officer.

Details on this policy were given in a DOD fact sheet issued Aug. 26.

The fact sheet points out all four military services require the installation nearest the location of the next of kin to dispatch a uniformed representative to give personal notification of the serviceman's status immediately upon receiving a report that he is missing in action or captured.

Within 24 to 30 hours thereafter the next of kin is visited by an assigned Assistance Officer who renders immediate aid with any financial or other problems and who continues to do this until the serviceman's status is finally resolved.

The fact sheet points out that each serviceman fills out and annually re-verifies a record of emergency data which, among other things, contains designation of persons to receive specific percentages of his pay if he is missing or captured. These amounts are paid automatically. Additionally the service secretary involved may modify or increase these allotments if they are found to be insufficient for family needs.

U.S. Military Air, Sealift Capabilities to Increase

A substantial increase in air and sealift capability is planned by this country over the next several years, Secretary of Defense Robert S. McNamara has told cabinet members.

He said these capabilities have gone up about 300 percent over the past five years.

"There are very dramatic changes ahead of us," the secretary noted, "and there will be a 10-fold increase between 1961 and 1971."

The air and sealift capability buildup combined with the pre-positioning of heavy equipment," Secretary McNamara said, "will enable us to move combat-ready forces quickly from the United States to trouble spots throughout the world."

Further explaining the increase, the secretary said, "We believe that our force requirement should be based not on the need to have troops stationed at every conceivable front but rather on our ability to move troops quickly when and if they are needed."

HIGHEST HONORS—His Excellency Vu Van Thai, RVN Ambassador to the U.S., confers two of his nation's highest honors, The National Order Fourth Class and the Valiant Cross with Palm, on Medal of Honor Winner Capt. Roger H. C. Donlon, USA, at the Embassy of Vietnam, Washington, D.C.

Secretary of State Rusk Describes SEA Objectives

Secretary of State Dean Rusk has described U.S. objectives in South Vietnam and Southeast Asia as "a peace which permits independent peoples to live in freedom under governments of their own choice."

"We shall continue to explore every possibility of an honorable peace. But we will not be driven out of South Vietnam by aggressive force. And we will not agree to a settlement that does not assure to the people of South Vietnam their right to peace and a free choice."

Mr. Rusk in addressing the recent August convention of the Veterans of Foreign Wars at New York City also noted that "our nuclear deterrent has been vastly strengthened" and that the governments in the world must recognize that to initiate a nuclear exchange would be a wholly irrational act.

"I believe also that it is recognized very widely, if not universally, that aggression by masses of conventional forces moving across frontiers is far too reckless an act for the world in which we now live," he said.

The Secretary of State told VFW delegates that the position and influence of Communist China has been declining because of its attacks on Tibet and India and its support of aggression against South Vietnam.

He also noted that the "NATO system has been challenged" by French decision to abandon integrated command and require allies to quit French soil but stressed the other NATO powers have met the challenge with clarity and resolution, making plain "their determination to maintain an effective NATO organization."

No Shortage of Targets For U.S. Fliers in Vietnam

Air Force and Navy fliers are not running out of targets to hit in North Vietnam despite the number of previous air strikes, U.S. officials say.

The apparent inconsistency is resolved, they explain, by the daily creation of new movable targets—dispersed POL dumps, oil barges and rail and truck traffic.

U.S. officials point out that the earlier air strikes on oil targets could have had one or both of two effects: (1) cutting the infiltration rate; (2) making infiltration more costly. The North Vietnamese have continued infiltration at great expense to the North Vietnamese society.

As for air strikes in the south, officials say that U.S. commanders and VC prisoners agree that the VC can no longer count on secure rest and training areas due to aerial pounding. Bombing is destroying reserve supplies and facilities.

PILOT AND THUNDERCHIEF—AF Capt. Buddie R. Reinbold stands beside his F-105 Thunderchief which took 87 shrapnel hits from communist ground fire over North Viet Nam. Although wounded, and with most of his instruments, electrical system and radio gone, Reinbold managed to return to home base for a safe touchdown. He was on his eighth mission.

SAC Centralized Pay Nears Operational Status

The Strategic Air Command's program to regionalize military pay from centrally located bases has moved closer to being fully operational with announcement of three additional control bases.

Davis-Monthan AFB, Ariz.; Minot AFB, N.D.; and K. I. Sawyer AFB, Mich., have joined Westover AFB, Mass., and Offutt AFB, Nebr., as operational control centers. Completing the projected eight control bases will be Carswell AFB, Tex.; Barksdale AFB, La.; and McCoy AFB, Fla.

Computers, pay clerks and military pay records are located at the control bases where pay checks are prepared and forwarded to satellite bases.

A rapid communications system is installed at each control and satellite base to provide immediate response to pay inquiries and to assure emergency pay service, according to SAC officials.

AF School for Latin America Changes Name

The "U.S. Air Force School for Latin America" will change its name Sept. 9 to "Inter-American Air Forces Academy" to reflect more accurately joint aeronautical occupational training by the U.S. and the many participating Latin American nations.

The school's mission of having U.S. Air Force personnel instruct in the Spanish and Portuguese languages and its location at Albrook AFB, C.Z., remains unchanged.

Currently more than 350 students from 13 different countries are enrolled in some 22 different courses at the Canal Zone school. Since its inception in 1943, more than 7,000 Latin American students have been graduated.

The school also offers a basic course in English to all students and provides a translation service into Spanish of pertinent U.S. Air Force publications.

Army Community Service Awards To Three Units

The first annual Army Community Service Program Awards went to Fort Dix, N.J., Fort MacArthur, Calif., and Schofield Barracks, Hawaii.

Army Community Service Centers are located at all CONUS U.S. Army installations and at most overseas installations to assist servicemen and their families in solving problems involving transportation, finance, housing, schooling, aid for handicapped children, advice to survivors and legal advice.

More than 100,000 individuals were assisted at these centers during the past year.

Fort Dix won for having the best major post program; Schofield Barracks for the best overseas program; Fort MacArthur in the small post category with less than 2,000 military personnel.

Seabee Petty Officer Recruiting Program Ends

Navy will take aboard the last 500 Seabee petty officers by mid-September, reaching its goal of enlisting 5,000 Seabee petty officers set in January when the Seabee Direct Petty Officer program began.

Under this direct procurement program, enlistees bypassed regular Navy basic training, attending instead, a four week indoctrination course at the Davisville, R.I., Construction Battalion Center.

Automatic Ranging Radar Set For Army Vehicular AA Guns

Anti-aircraft guns on Army tracked vehicles will get automatic ranging radars under terms of a production contract let with Lockheed Electronics Co. which is already working on a development contract of three prototype radars, the Lockheed Co. has announced.

The company is also working on a new terrain-following radar to give military helicopters an all-weather operational capability now lacking.

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